

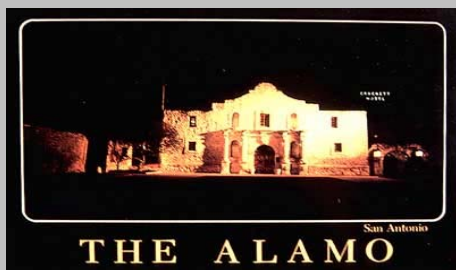
# Youth Initiative Program

February 2005 Issue 2

*Network Providers Newsletter*

## MEETING REMINDER

The Youth Initiative Program will hold its next networking meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2005, at the Alamo Conference Center.



The Alamo is located at 820 North Raynor, El Paso, Tx. Please make plans to attend. For information call (915) 298-9600.

## YIP Guest Speaker – New Criteria For Tattoo Removal

The guest speaker for this month's YIP meeting is Officer Andy Sanchez from the EPPD Gang Unit. Officer Sanchez will give an update on the new criteria for the El Paso County Tattoo Removal Program. The program is designed to remove visible, gang/cult-related tattoos by use of the high-tech infra-red coagulator (IRC). Applications will be available. For more information contact YIP at 298-9671.



**Coronado High School MARS Counselors At YIP Meeting**



**Franklin High School MARS Facilitator Rita Aguilera (right)**



**Hanks High School MARS Interim Facilitator Lauren Williams (right back)**



**Ysleta High School MARS Facilitator Elizabeth Sanchez (right back)**

## MARS Gets Bigger on Earth

NASA has confirmed that the planet Mars is not getting bigger, but here on Earth the MARS program is growing among school counselors and agencies. Many agencies find their client base at the schools; MARS enables them to serve all area high schools and the feeder schools through these meetings. Communities in Schools, At-Risk Coordinators, and Counselors make up the school team. High School Facilitators do an excellent job of keeping the teams connected; job well done!

## Students Help EPPD with Crime Prevention Training Video

Students from Del Valle Broadcast Journalism department are assisting the Police Department in developing a crime prevention training video for retail establishments. Special thanks to Marisol Rivera and students: Andres Barrientos, Rudolfo Garcia, Laura Guerrero, and Sonia Gutierrez. Great job Del Valle!

## Seeking Directory of Agencies With Literacy Component

Dr. Gene Finke, Military & Civil Consultant for EPISD is asking if anyone knows of a directory or listing of agencies that have "literacy" as a component of their program. If not, he wants to compile one. If your agency has literacy as part of its curriculum, please contact Dr. Gene Finke at: [gfinke@elp.rr.com](mailto:gfinke@elp.rr.com).

## School and Community Partnerships – A Step Above...

Deborah Jones (left) and Letty Gonzalez (right), from Coronado High School took time out from their busy schedules to attend the YIP meeting held on January 20, 2005 at the Alamo Conference Center. The monthly YIP meeting is a networking hub where all facets of the community come together to share resources, form partnerships, and stay connected. Deborah is the MARS facilitator for Coronado High and its feeder schools. School personnel attend YIP to get information/brochures from those agencies that do not have staffing for the school-based MARS program. They also find partners for school programs or events and presenters on a wide range of topics for students and parents.

**YIP Celebrates 10 Years of Community Partnerships in June! Thanks!!!**



## Alliance of Border Coalitions



### U.S./Mexico Border Conference on Substance Abuse Issues

Presentations by International Leaders include: Coalition Building, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP's) Strategic Prevention Framework

Date: March 9 & 10, 2005

Place: Camino Real Hotel  
101 South El Paso St.  
El Paso, Texas 79901

Phone: 1-800-722-6466

For conference information contact:



Phone: (915) 775-2555

Fax (915) 775-2559

E-Mail: [safecommunitiestept@sbcglobal.net](mailto:safecommunitiestept@sbcglobal.net)



### New EPPD Cyber Crimes Unit

The El Paso Police Department recently developed and implemented the Internet Crimes Against Children Unit (ICAC). The objective is to identify and arrest offenders using the internet or other technology to sexually exploit children. The Unit takes a proactive approach by investigating cyber crimes and apprehending offenders before they are able to victimize children. ICAC is located in the Crimes Against Children Section at 9600 Dyer under the command of Lt. Joe Molinar CAC: (915) 298-9600

### Child Crisis Center Celebrates 25 Years of Service

The Child Crisis Center is celebrating 25 years of comforting children and providing the community with a wide range of child abuse and neglect prevention services. There will be two kick off events to start the celebration -Open House at **Blue Sage Supermarkets**, at 951 N. Resler, **February 13, 2005 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm**. There will be lots of free activities for the children such as a jumping balloon, face painting, games, prizes, and a storytelling circle. These will be goodie bags, food tasting samples, store discounts and musical entertainment by area School Musicians.

The Child Crisis Center then welcomes:



### "The Best Circus in America" is Coming to El Paso! February 25-27, 2005 at Sunland Park Mall

Circus Chimera is America's Finest Circus Spectacular, and they will be appearing in El Paso sponsored by the Child Crisis Center of El Paso starting on February 25th, 2005, and continuing through February 27th, 2005. This year Circus Chimera presents "WOW! Wonders of the World", an all-new production combining the world's greatest circus artists with spectacular theatrical effects, state of the art lighting, Broadway choreography, and an ethereal musical score.

### Groundhog Job Shadow Day

Over 1,200 El Paso area students were part of the February 2<sup>nd</sup> Job Shadow Day sponsored by Upper Rio Grande College TechPrep Youth Consortium. The day event gives young people across America job shadow experiences, providing them with examples of the relevancy of the subjects they are required to take in school. Visit [www.careersprep.com](http://www.careersprep.com).



### IT'S GIRL SCOUT COOKIE TIME!

Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande are offering these tasty treats with 8 varieties at \$3.00 a box... you can't miss! Girls Scouts are once again offering **OPERATION COOKIES TO OUR TROOPS** - a program that gives the community the opportunity to buy cookies to send directly to our troops overseas. Last year's program was a huge success! Sales will continue through the first week of March. Cookie delivery begins February 19<sup>th</sup>.

**E-week @ UTEP** - Two events!  
**Expanding Your Horizons** - February 26, 2005 - for girls in grades 6-8. Lots of hands-on activities, career explorations and lunch. Contact RGGS to register. Cost \$15.  
**Engineering Expo** - February 26, 2005, for girls in grades 9 & 10 - An experience in the engineering labs of UTEP, exploring engineering options and activities. Contact RGGS to register. No Cost.

**Race for the Cure** - Volunteer to cheer on and pass out water to the TransMountain Run participants for the February 20th event. No cost.

**Grace Rocha, Training Specialist, Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande**  
**Phone: (915) 566-9433.**

**Fax: (915) 565-1500**  
[rochag@gsriogrande.org](mailto:rochag@gsriogrande.org)

**Jacqueline Gonzalez**  
**Membership and Marketing Manager**  
**Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande**  
**(915)566-9433 ext. 17**  
[jgonzalez@gsriogrande.org](mailto:jgonzalez@gsriogrande.org)



**February Birthdays & Celebrations:**  
Abraham Lincoln, February 12<sup>th</sup> and George Washington, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Presidents' Day, February 21<sup>st</sup>; Flag Day, February 24<sup>th</sup>, & February 14<sup>th</sup>.

**" HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!"**



## El Paso Police Department's Safe Communities Reduced Traffic Fatalities in 2004...

The Safe Communities Program of the EPPD Traffic Section will be having a booster initiative in honor of Child Passenger Safety Week on February 19, 2005, from 10:00 am thru 1:00 pm at PD HQ's parking lot. They will be inspecting all safety seats, with an emphasis on getting kids in boosters. The Safe Communities Program has worked hard in the prevention, education and enforcement effort in trying to reduce the number of fatalities in our community.

Here are some impressive stats:

- 1. Walk Safe Program-** Educates Senior Citizen's and school age children on the importance of being a safe and smart pedestrian. They educated: 25 Senior Centers/Senior groups on how to be a safe pedestrian. 70-Schools on school zone/pedestrian safety.
- 2. Law Enforcement working with Liquor Establishments-**educates liquor establishments on the laws in regards to serving intoxicated individuals, serving minors, and how to identify fake i.d.'s. Vice officers also go out and check liquor establishments with TABC to ensure the establishments are abiding by the law. 46 bars were "checked" last year.
- 3. Safe Riders Program-**Offers a one-hour educational class on proper safety seat selection, installation and usage to parents and caregivers. If a family is in need of a safety seat, a safety seat will be provided to them free of charge. Safety seat inspections are done at Babies R Us every other month. 425 families/caregivers were educated at the safety seat class. 243 seats were given out 89 seats were inspected at Babies R Us.
- 4. Safe Communities/STI Video-**in 2004, Safe Communities and STI developed an educational video demonstrating the consequences of DWI, excessive speed, and lack of seat belt usage in crashes. Over 5,000 people, to include Ft. Bliss, schools and MADD Victim's Impact Panel (VIP) have viewed the video.
- 5. Ride Safe Program-**A motorcycle safety program that is offered to help curb the amount of crashes involving motorcyclists. They had 3- presentations last year.

Margaret Petrozza-Meraz  
Safe Communities Coordinator  
915-564-7352  
Petrozza-MerazMA@ci.el-paso.tx.us

## Do You Want To...

Find a job or finish your education? Have you obtained your H.S. diploma/G.E.D. and are considering taking vocational training? Are you between the ages of 14-21 and have dropped out of school and need help? Call the Upper Rio Grande @ Work Youth Services at (915) 887-2124 or 887-2675. Attend an orientation at 5919 Brook Hollow, held every Wed. at 2 p.m., followed by an assessment, eligibility interview, and application (requires about 4-6 hours). All services are FREE; don't delay!

## Participate in Dia De Los Niños:

**Dia De Los Libros** that will be held at Washington Park on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The annual event sponsored by El Paso Public Libraries will be free of charge to all children. Last year about 45,000 attended. Plan to participate. Think of a way your group can interact with the children using a prevention or healthy choice message, and then submit a booth application. Contact Daena Torres at El Paso Adoption Services (915) 542-1086.

## El Paso Police Thank Sponsors & Participants – Pride Day 2004

The El Paso Police Department held a special ceremony at the Pebble Hills Regional Command on Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> to thank the major sponsors and participants of Pride Day 2004. Pride Day is an annual event where the citizens of El Paso with the assistance of the El Paso Police Department, Keep El Paso Beautiful, City of El Paso Streets Department, Solid Waste Management and the El Paso Fire Department clean up litter and graffiti from their neighborhoods. Pride Day is one of the many programs formed under the Community Policing Philosophy. The annual participation and joint effort between the community and the police department enhances the philosophy by strengthening the department's partnership with the community. Contact the Regional Command in your area for Pride Day 2005.

## Tuition Free College Credits

The El Paso Community College offers core courses to qualified high school seniors and juniors during daytime periods. Students receive both high school credit and college credit for the courses they take in the Dual Credit Program. For placement exam overview: [www.thea.nesinc.com](http://www.thea.nesinc.com). Contact the Office of Recruitment at 831-2575 ([recruitment@epcc.edu](mailto:recruitment@epcc.edu)).

## February Clinics for Parents of Students with Disabilities

West Texas Parent Education Network will be holding clinics to assist parents and caregivers of students with disabilities. The February meetings are the second through fourth Saturdays of the month at the EPCC North West Branch Library on Desert Blvd.; Sundays at the Richard Burges Branch Library. Clinics are held from 1-3 P.M. E-mail: [wtxtpen19@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wtxtpen19@sbcglobal.net). Web: [//www.partnerstx.org/contact\\_PEN.html](http://www.partnerstx.org/contact_PEN.html).

**Partners Resource Network**, or PRN is the non-profit agency awarded three PTI Projects which now cover the entire state of Texas. These project operate independently but do share some central administrative functions. All the projects share the common purpose of empowering parents of children and youth with disabilities in their roles as parents, decision makers, and advocates for their children.



Contact Information - Project Office  
West Texas Parent Education Network (PEN)  
1001 Main St. Suite 804  
Lubbock, TX. 79401  
Phone 806-762-1434  
FAX 806-762-1628  
Texas Only - Toll Free 877-762-1435  
*Asistiendo familias en español llame al numero gratis 1-877-762-1435*  
<http://www.partnerstx.org/>

## Use the YIP Newsletter...

To let the community know about your organization, make an announcement, recognize an achievement, or highlight a milestone...

Just fax the information to (915) 298-9808 or e-mail [TovarM@ci.el-paso.tx.us](mailto:TovarM@ci.el-paso.tx.us) the last week of each month for the upcoming month (last week of February for March Newsletter). The Newsletter is designed for outreach, partnerships, and for documentation purposes. Questions? Call the Youth Initiative Program (YIP), Officer Alberto Chavez or Nell Tovar, at (915) 298-9600.

## Multi-Agency Referral System (MARS) School Schedule, 2005

EL PASO ISD

<b>Andress High</b> Library Conference Room	Mon. @ 1:30 p.m.	1/10, 2/7, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2	Deborah Lunow	832-8600/ 757-6443
<b>Austin High</b> Cafeteria Lounge	Tue. @ 9:00 a.m.	1/11, 2/8, 3/8, 4/12, 5/10	Robert Teran	587-2506/566-7360
<b>Bowie High</b> Library	Fri. @ 10:00 a.m.	1/14, 2/11, 3/11, 4/8, 5/13	Linda Romero	496-8200/532-1918
<b>Burges High</b> Conference	Wed. @ 10 a.m.	1/19, 2/16, 3/16, 4/13, 5/18	Martin Rivas	780-1100/771-6914
<b>Chapin High</b> Library Rm 151	Mon. @ 8:45 a.m.	1/10, 2/14, 3/14, 4/11, 5/9	Barbara Augustine	832-6730/565-9716
<b>Coronado High</b> Library	Mon. @ 10: a.m.	1/10, 2/14, 3/9, 4/13, 5/11	Deborah Jones	834-2476/587-6458
<b>El Paso High</b> Counseling Center	Wed. @ 10:00 a.m.	1/12, 2/9, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12	Pat Smelser	496-8300/532-2008
<b>Franklin High</b> Cafeteria Lounge	Wed. @ 10 a.m.	1/19, 2/16, 3/16, 4/20, 5/18	Rita Aguilera	832-6600/587-4094
<b>Irvin High</b> Cafeteria Lounge	Fri. @ 9:00 a.m.	1/7, 2/4, 3/4, 4/1, 5/6	John Marestein	587-3500/757-6450
<b>Jefferson High</b> Room 231	Fri. @ 10:30 a.m.	1/7, 2/4, 3/4, 4/1, 5/6	Donna Rollins	496-8010/532-2033

YSLETA ISD

<b>Bel Air High</b> Counselor's Rm.	Thur. @ 8:00 a.m.	1/20, 2/17, 3/24, 4/21, 5/19	Terry Randall	434-2042/434-2174
<b>Del Valle High</b> Library	Thurs. @ 9:00 a.m.	1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 4/7, 5/5	Martha Campos	434-3180/858-1427
<b>Eastwood High</b> Room 209	Wed. @ 1:00 p.m.	1/26, 2/23, 3/30, 4/27, 5/25	Rita Montoya	434-4291/598-8014
<b>Hanks High</b> Teachers' Conference Rm.	Tue. @ 9:00 a.m.	1/18, 2/15, 3/22, 4/19, 5/18	Lauren Williams	434-5188/598-4621
<b>Parkland High</b> Asst. Principal's Conference	Tue. @ 9:00 a.m.	1/11, 2/1, 3/1, 4/4, 5/2	Margarita Hernandez	434-6048/434-6291
<b>Riverside High (locations rotate)</b> Library	Tue. @ 10:30 a.m.	1/18 @ Tejas School of Choice 2/8 @ Riverside Middle 3/8 @ Cadwallader 4/12 @ Riverside High 5/10 @ Ramona Elem.	Ofelia Gonzalez	434-7018/779-6983

<b>Ysleta High</b> Room 120	Wed. @ 8:30 a.m.	1/5, 2/2, 3/2, 4/6, 5/4	Liz Hernandez	434-8020/434-8026
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SOCORRO ISD

<b>Americas/Montwood High</b> Counselor's room	Wed. @ 2:00 p.m.	1/5, 2/2, 3/2, 4/6, 5/4	Nick Carey	937-2840/855-6898
<b>Socorro High</b> Library Classroom	Thur. @ 1:00 p.m.	1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 4/7, 5/5	Arlene Lira	937-2000/859-0206

Published by:

**Youth Initiative Program**

El Paso Police Department

**El Paso Police Department****Youth Initiative Program****9600 Dyer Street****El Paso, TX. 79924**

Crimes Against Children	298-9600
Commander:	
Lt. Joe Molinar,	298-9605
Section Supervisor:	
Sgt. Humberto Talamantes	298-9611
Officer Alberto Chavez	298-9670
Nell Tovar, Coordinator	298-9671